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SPECIAL CONSUMER NOTICE
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NOTICE

On 1 June 1987 FBIS will begin publication of reorganized and renamed DAILY REPORTS. The following list details the changes being made in the eight volumes.

I.	CHINA DAILY REPORT	Contents unchanged
II.	EASTERN EUROPE DAILY REPORT	Contents unchanged
III.	SOVIET UNION DAILY REPORT	Contents unchanged
IV.	EAST ASIA DAILY REPORT	Renamed; formerly ASIA & PACIFIC DAILY REPORT; contents unchanged
V.	NEAR EAST & SOUTH ASIA DAILY REPORT	Renamed; formerly MIDDLE EAST & AFRICA DAILY REPORT; contents include: Middle East & South Asia Review Inter-Arab Affairs Islamic Affairs Palestinian Affairs OPEC Affairs South Asian Regional Affairs Arab Africa Algeria Chad Egypt Libya Mauritania Morocco Sudan Tunisia Western Sahara Arabian Peninsula Bahrain Kuwait Oman PDRY Qatar Saudi Arabia United Arab Emirates Yemen Arab Republic Iraq Israel Jordan Lebanon Syria South Asia Afghanistan Bangladesh India Iran Maldives Nepal & Bhutan Pakistan Sri Lanka
VI.	LATIN AMERICA DAILY REPORT	Contents unchanged

(continued on back of report)

FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

21 MAY 1987

Gulf Conflict

Iran on Stark attack — The United States has not thus far divulged the correct and complete details of the attack on the U.S. frigate *Stark*, Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi claimed in remarks reported by Tehran radio 21 May. If the true dimensions of this "disgrace" were revealed, U.S. leaders would be faced with a "fiasco" similar to the "McFarlane Affair," he maintained. Reaffirming Iran's opposition to the U.S. military presence in the Gulf, he stressed that Iran cannot be threatened and it is ready to "reveal its power and its determination to deliver reciprocal blows anywhere in the world."

Iraqi Measures on Stark — Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz said his country will compensate the families of U.S. sailors killed in the attack on the *Stark*, Abu Dhabi radio reported. According to a Beirut press report cited by Damascus radio, President Saddam Husayn has ordered the arrest of the two pilots who fired on the U.S. frigate, directing that they be "harshly interrogated."

War Reports — Iraqi planes attacked an industrial unit near Ahvaz 20 May, causing some damage but no casualties, IRNA reported. In another IRNA report, Iran called Iraq's claim of downing an F-4 on 20 May a "total fabrication," stating that all Iranian planes returned safely from their missions that morning. In naval action, Iranian fire damaged several Iraqi gunboats that were approaching Iranian positions in Khawr 'Abdallah, IRNA reported.

Syria

Soviet Arms Deal — During President Hafiz al-Asad's April visit to Moscow, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev told Al-Asad the Soviet Union will equip Syria with new weapons for strategic parity with Israel, the UAE's *Al-Ittihad* reported. The weapons will include SS-23 missiles, T-80 tanks, and 40 MIG-29 planes, bringing to 120 the number of MIG-29's the USSR has agreed to sell Syria. The paper said additional SAM systems would also be included.

Syrian-Iraqi Summit — Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Iraqi Foreign Minister 'Aziz met secretly in Jordan as part of efforts for a summit between their countries, according to Kuwait's *Al-Qabas* as cited by AFP. Khaddam and 'Aziz reportedly agreed to continue direct contacts.

Israel

West Bank Murder of Israeli — A Jewish boy who was found dead 21 May was apparently murdered for "terrorist" motives, IDF radio reported. Security forces imposed a curfew on Arab villages near the boy's home settlement at Elon More, where settlers were urged to refrain from engaging in partisan retaliatory action, Jerusalem radio noted.

Internal Politics — The Knesset committee on the Pollard affair will issue "grave and sharp" conclusions against both the political and operational echelons, IDF radio disclosed, adding that the forthcoming report will contain evaluations of the role played by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres, and several other senior ministers. As for the ongoing Shamir-Peres dispute, Shamir told IDF radio that he does not want a narrow-based government and that he will not rush to take disciplinary measures against Peres. The prime minister maintained that Peres brought nothing new from Washington, asserting that the international conference issue "no longer exists."

Libya

Relations With Australia — Libya has decided to reconsider its commercial and economic relations with Australia in light of the latter's "unjustified" decision to close the People's Bureau in Canberra, the Foreign Liaison Bureau announced in a statement reported by JANA 21 May. Dismissing Australian charges of Libyan support for terrorism, the statement accused Australia of acting as a regional "policeman" to safeguard "imperialist interests" against the growing national feelings of the peoples of the South Pacific. A related commentary by JANA's political editor contended that Australia closed the Libyan bureau "on U.S. and British orders."

JANA on FRG Bombing — JANA viewed a 20 May statement by the FRG interior minister as evidence of the "falsehood" of U.S. allegations that Libya was responsible for the La Belle nightclub bombing in West Berlin last year.

Vienna Shooting — Former Libyan diplomat 'Izz al-Din Ghadamsi was wounded by a Libyan gunman in Vienna 20 May, ORF Teletext reported. The attacker gave himself up to police the same evening.

Egypt

After meeting with President Husni Mubarak in Cairo, visiting UAE Petroleum Minister Mani ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah noted that their talks had focused on political issues including Egypt's relations with the PLO, MENA reported. The agency also cited an Egyptian press report that the PLO has asked Egypt to receive a PLO delegation headed by Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat.

Sudan

Prime Minister Al-sadiq Al-mahdi issued a decision asking the ministers of state and under secretaries to perform the routine duties of the ministers who were relieved of their posts by a State Council decree to clear the way for the formation of a new government, SUNA reported.

PDRY-USSR

In remarks to ANA cited by Aden radio, Defense Minister Salih 'Ubayd Ahmad said his talks in Moscow with his Soviet counterpart Sergey Sokolov yielded "great positive results." The USSR expressed eagerness to "reinforce" Yemen's defense capacity, the minister said.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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Revolutionary Council Decree Includes Amnesty
LD202307 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 20 May 87

[Text] The regular session of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium, chaired by Haji Mohammad Chamkani, acting president of the Revolutionary Council Presidium, was held this morning in Gol Khana Palace, the headquarters of the Revolutionary Council.

At this session, in connection with the implementation of the humane objectives of the national reconciliation, the following decree of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium was issued about reemployment, payment of pensions to civil servants, workers, employees, and the rest of the people embodied in this decree, as well as an amnesty of subordinate and complementary sentences:

In accordance with Article 44 of the DRA Basic Principles and the statement issued by the extraordinary session of the Revolutionary Council dated 3 January 1987 on the reconciliation, the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium approves:

Article 1 — this decree will be applied to those who had been sentenced because of committing a crime against the domestic or foreign security of the country after the April Revolution and, in view of amnesty decrees, were released or have spent the specific term of imprisonment; to returnees; to members of the opposition groups who have laid down weapons; and to civil servants, workers, and government employees who have abandoned their duties.

Article 2 — The subordinate and complementary sentences of those who had been sentenced because of committing crimes against the domestic and foreign security of the country after the April Revolution, and as a result of amnesty decrees were either released from prison or have spent the specific term of imprisonment with the exception of measures embodied in paragraphs 2 and 3 of Article 117 of the Penal Code, are being pardoned.

Article 3 — The civil servants embodied in this decree who are affected by the legal rule on resignation, will be reappointed without consideration of the consequences of resignation embodied in Article 82 of the Government Civil Servants' Law.

Article 4 — The workers and employees embodied in this decree whose contracts have been nullified, will be accepted back to work with the preservation of their previous grade.

Article 5 — The civil servants, workers, and employees embodied in this decree who have reached retirment age, may benefit, in accordance with the circumstances, from the provision in paragraph 2 of Article 90 of the Civil Servants' Law, and the provision in supplement number 2 of the Government Employees Law published in issue number 559 of the official gazette dated 5 June 1984.

Article 6 — Those retired persons who have returned to the country or have laid down weapons, will receive a pension starting on the date of returning to the homeland and laying down their weapons.

Article 7 — This decree is in force from the date of approval and will be published in the official gazette.

The Revolutionary Council Presidium also considered a decree on the distribution of land plots to the homeless returnees and has commissioned the Ministry of Justice and the department in charge of the affairs of the returnees to prepare the final draft and present it at the next session.

In order to regulate issues relevant to the acquisition of land in the public interest, compensation to the owners, and compensation to those who have received land in view of decree number 8, the Revolutionary Council Presidium approved the Requisition Law in 22 articles.

In order to safeguard all regions of the country against infection and disaster such as [words indistinct] and other dangerous disasters which cause economic damage; and for the timely diagnosis and eradication of agricultural disasters, this session of the Revolutionary Council Presidium has also approved the Law on Agricultural Quarantine Services in the DRA, in 6 chapters and 36 articles.

The session of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium has also considered and made necessary decisions concerning the issues relevant to the remittance of sentences such as the remaining term of imprisonment, obtaining outstanding debts in installments, ignoring legal pronouncements and appointment of special judicial panels; issues relevant to the presentation of DRA badges and medals; organizational issues; and a number of other issues.

Also attending this session of the Revolutionary Council Presidium were: Dr Mohammad Hasan Sherq, head of the central department for the affairs of the return of our compatriots; Mohammad Anwar Wahedi, deputy minister of justice, and some members of the ministry's legislative and scientific legal research institute; head of the department for the preservation of plants and quarantine of the DRA Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reform; and heads of departments of the Revolutionary Council Presidium.

Najib Speaks To Nejrab District Elders
LD210050 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 20 May 87

[Excerpts] Comrade Najib, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, met members of the national reconciliation commission, elders and chiefs of Nejrab District, Kapisa Province this afternoon at Delkosha Palace. During the conversation, he specified their duties and responsibilities in implementing the national reconciliation process in the country. [passage omitted]

The BIA correspondent adds that Comrade Najib, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, then spoke and said:

The bitter conditions stemming from the undeclared imperialist war — which has been imposed on our people — have not brought about anything else except death, misfortune, adversity, pain, and disease.

What is obvious, however, is that the heroic and brave people of Nejrab District, as other thousands of compatriots in our country, have fought firmly against difficulties and have defended the national sovereignty with devotion and self-sacrifice.

Comrade Najib added: We do not forget the sacrifices by your sons, who have lost their beloved lives on this sacred path.

Comrade Najib said: If intervention and aggression from (?abroad) is stopped right now and the undeclared war by imperialism which has been forged ahead by the NATO countries and regional reactionaries, the war in Afghanistan will be ended.

The BIA correspondent adds that at the end, a prayer was read out by Mowlawi Abdol Qyum for the restoration of peace and progress in the country.

Aristov-Led Delegation Concludes Talks, Departs
LD190607 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0457 GMT 19 May 87

[Text] Kabul, May 18, BAKHTAR — Soltan Ali Keshtmand, Politburo member of the PDPA CC and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the DRA, received in his office Boris Ivanovich Aristov, minister of foreign trade of the USSR and members of his delegation.

The matters of improving the mutually-beneficial commercial, technical and economic cooperation between the USSR and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan were discussed at the meeting.

Soltan Ali Keshtmand had also participated in the ceremony of concluding inter-governmental agreement on offering economic assistance by the USSR to the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. The agreement was signed from the Afghan side by Mohammad Khan Jalalar, minister of commerce, and from the Soviet side, by B.I. Aristov, minister of foreign trade of the USSR.

The delegation which was here at the invitation of the Government of the DRA left for the Soviet Union today.

The delegation was seen off by Soltan Ali Keshtmand, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the DRA, and other officials at Kabul International Airport.

Security Forces Seize Mortars, Missiles
LD201744 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 20 May 87

[Text] As a result of the sincere cooperation by the peace-seeking people of the Lalandar region of Chahar Asiab District, and the timely action of the national reconciliation commission and security forces of Kabul Province, another criminal plan of the extremist elements was discovered and foiled.

The BIA reported that the enemies of the prosperity and tranquility of our compatriots were attempting to bring three surface-to-surface missiles and nine mortars into the Shahtut region of Lalandar. Their intent was to disrupt the calm and peaceful life of our people, to make the population fearful and agitated, and to cause mourning among our religious people in the holy month of Ramadan.

After becoming aware of the hostile plan of the extremists, the peace-loving people of Lalandar reported this to the national reconciliation commission and asked that the country's security forces prevent the the extremist elements' from carrying out their plan.

The security forces, as a result of the demand by the national reconciliation commission and in accordance with the cease-fire, entered the Shahtut region of Lalandar and seized the mortars and the surface-to-surface missiles.

Delhi Situation 'Tense But Under Control'

BK201614 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 20 May 87

[Text] In Delhi, the situation in the curfew-bound areas of the walled city is tense but under control. According to the police commissioner, curfew will continue tonight and the situation will be reviewed tomorrow morning. He told a correspondent that no untoward incident took place during the day. Police patrolling is continuing in the affected areas. Prohibitory orders have been enforced in the union territory of Delhi for 6 days from today. The lieutenant governor, Mr H.L. Kapur, has directed the police to take stern action against antisocial elements and rumor mongers. He announced a compensation of 20,000 rupees each to the next of kin of those who died in yesterday's violence; 2,500 will be given to the seriously injured.

Delhi Curfew Relaxed

BK210341 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 21 May 87

[Text] In Delhi, the situation in the curfew-bound areas of the walled city is under control. According to the police, no untoward incident was reported from the affected areas last night. The curfew was relaxed for 2 hours from 0500 to 0700 in the morning. They said the situation will be reviewed in the afternoon.

Gandhi Discusses President's Rule in Punjab

BK201632 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 20 May 87

[Text] The prime minister has said the center would endeavour to restore a popular government in Punjab as early as possible, ending president's rule. Addressing a delegation of Sikhs from Amritsar and Gurdaspur in New Delhi today, Mr Rajiv Gandhi said the situation in the state had deteriorated to such an extent that there was no other option. It was with deep regret that the government had to impose president's rule in Punjab. He said the writ of the state government had stopped running and a new type of fundamentalism had emerged.

Referring to the report of the Ravi and Beas waters tribunal, Mr Gandhi said the Punjab farmers will get the full share of water. Plenty of water is available, and there should be no room for complaint from any quarter, he said.

Water Allocated to Punjab

BK201654 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 20 May 87

[Text] The Eradi tribunal has allocated 5 million acre-feet of surplus Ravi-Beas waters to Punjab. This is 780,000 acre-feet more than the waters allotted to the state under the 1981 agreement. The share of Haryana has been fixed at 3.83 million acre-feet, 330,000 acre-feet more than the 1981 figure. The shares of Rajasthan and Jammu and Kashmir and the provision for water supply in Delhi remain unchanged. The preindependence use of the waters has been left intact.

The tribunal was appointed under the Punjab accord signed by the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, and the late president of the Akali Dal, Mr Sant Harchand singh Longowal. Its report was forwarded today to the governments of Punjab, Haryana, and Rajasthan. One of the terms of reference of the tribunal was to verify the actual use of the Ravi-Beas waters on the 1st of July 1985. Exclusive of preindependence use, Punjab's uses have been verified at 3.106 million acre-feet and Haryana's 1.62 million acre-feet. Punjab has now been allocated 5 million acre-feet and Haryana 3.83 million acre-feet. The tribunal was also asked to adjudicate the claims of Punjab and Haryana in the remaining waters.

Tribunal found that besides the 1981 allocations, substantial waters are available between Madhopur and Ravi (Siphon) and between Mandi Plain and Ferozepur. These waters are not being used by India now and are flowing into Pakistan. Out of these additional waters, the tribunal found it reasonable to allot 1.11 million acre-feet for use in Punjab and Haryana. This has been considered by the tribunal in working out the total quantum of remaining waters available for allocation to Punjab and Haryana.

The tribunal has also stressed the importance of completing the Sutlej-Yamuna link canal speedily. If anything in the tribunal's decision requires explanation or guidance, further reference is required to be made to the tribunal within 3 months. The tribunal may then give a further report. A press release recalls that under the Punjab accord, the decision of the tribunal is binding on both parties.

3 'Notorious Terrorists' Killed in Punjab 20 May

BK201624 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 20 May 87

[Text] In Punjab, three notorious terrorists were shot dead in different encounters today. According to an official spokesman, two of them belong to B category of terrorists and carried a reward of 25,000 rupees each on their head. They were responsible for a number of terrorist activities, including gunning down three persons in the area yesterday. Some arms and ammunition have also been recovered.

4 More 'Terrorists' Killed

BK210355 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 21 May 87

[Text] In Punjab, four more terrorists were killed in three encounters last night. According to the state police chief, Mr Ribeiro, three of them were killed in Amritsar District and one in Faridkot District. Some accomplices of the terrorists however managed to escape. The encounters took place at the surprise checkposts set up by the police and paramilitary forces.

Border Forces Kill 8 Intruders From Pakistan

BK210339 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 21 May 87

[Text] Eight intruders from Pakistan were killed in an encounter with the BSF [Border Security Force] at Khem Karen on the Indo-Pakistan border on Tuesday [19 May] night. Police say the intruders opened fire when challenged by the BSF Jawans [soldiers]. The security personnel returned the fire, killing eight. Five others managed to escape across the border.

Situation in Meerut City 'Generally Peaceful'

BK210343 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 21 May 87

[Text] In Uttar Pradesh, the situation in the curfew-bound areas of Meerut City was said to be generally peaceful last night. However, some incidents of arson, stone throwing, and stabbing have been reported from some other areas.

An official spokesman said army pickets at sensitive points are assisting the civil authorities in maintaining law and order. He said the death toll in the violent incidents has gone up to 24 with the recovery of 3 more bodies. Over 350 people have been arrested so far. Additional police forces are being sent to ensure peace and order in the city.

Government Hosts Talks With Tamil Groups

TULF Holds 'Cordial' Meeting

BK181551 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 1525 GMT 18 May 87

["OANA pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, May 18 (LANKA PUWATH) — Sri Lanka's national television network 'Rupavahini' announced in its telecast tonight that a fresh bid to resume negotiations for a political settlement to Sri Lanka's ethnic crisis got underway today in New Delhi following a series of meetings of the TULF representatives and representatives of the Indian Government.

Informed sources told 'Rupavahiani' this afternoon that the TULF secretary general A. Amirthalingam, President Sivasithamparam and R. Sampanthan held separate meetings with the Indian Foreign Secretary K.S. Menon and later with Indian State Minister P. Chidambaran and Natwar Singh.

They were scheduled to hold a further round of talks this afternoon.

A TULF spokesman described the talks as cordial and said the TULF had the opportunity to review the current political situation in Sri Lanka and listened to suggestions India had about re-activating the political exercise.

He said the TULF members would remain in New Delhi tomorrow as well.

Meanwhile, a spokesperson for the Indian High Commission in Colombo told Rupavahini today that the Madras based Tamil separatist terrorist groups had been asked to be in readiness to come to New Delhi for discussions.

Reports indicate that representatives of the LTTE and EROS may be summoned to Delhi as early as Wednesday the 20th.

Government, TULF Talks Continue

BK191527 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0926 GMT 19 May 87

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, May 19 *(Lanka Puwath)* — The latest round of talks between the Indian Government and the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF) which began in New Delhi yesterday are expected to continue for the next two days, according to a special *Press Trust of India* (PTI) despatch to *Lanka Puwath*. The despatch states the TULF delegation led by General Secretary A Amirthalingam conferred yesterday for one hour with Minister of State for Home (Internal) Affairs P Chiddambaram, who has been one of India's main mediators on the Sri Lanka question. The three man TULF delegation also met Foreign Secretary K P S Menon separately.

An Indian Foreign Office spokesman was quoted as saying they were in the process of going through their discussions. The talks continue today and are expected to end tomorrow. India's high commissioner in Colombo, J N Dixit also participated in the discussions.

Meanwhile, the LTTE was reported to have forcibly taken possession of TULF leader Amirthalingam's house in Jaffna, as the talks began in New Delhi. Mr. Amirthalingam had complained bitterly that his relations were not even allowed to collect his belongings, including valuable law books. The house is being used by the LTTE as a 'kangaroo court' according to the reports reaching Colombo.

TULF Stay Extended

BK191533 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 1457 GMT 19 May 87

["OANA pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, May 19 (LANKA PUWATH) — Sri Lanka's national television network 'Rupavahini' in its news telecast tonight said that the TULF delegation now in New Delhi for talks with the Indian Government on the Sri Lankan ethnic problem have extended their stay in the Indian capital in view of new developments.

TULF sources told Rupavahini this evening the details of the discussions were not known but confirmed the TULF President M Sivasithamparam, Secretary-General A Amirthalingam and R Sampanthan will not return to Madras as scheduled today since a further round of talks was lined up for tomorrow.

This morning the TULF leaders held further talks with Indian Minister for External Affairs Natwar Singh and Indian Foreign Secretary K P S Menon.

The discussions were held separately and are believed to have centered on the Sri Lankan Government's December 19 proposals, considered by India to be a sound basis for the resumption of dialogue aimed at seeking a political solution to the island's ethnic problem.

Indian high commissioner in Colombo J N Dixit was reported to have been associated in both discussions.

Meanwhile, it is still not clear whether the separatist terrorist groups which were expected to be summoned to New Delhi will be called in immediately in view of the extention of the discussions between the Indian Government and the TULF.

PRC Premier To Pay 'Official' Visit 21-24 June

BK201140 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 20 May 87

[Text] The Chinese prime minister, Mr Zhao Ziyang, is to pay an official visit to Pakistan from 21-24 of next month at the invitation of the prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo. Our diplomatic correspondent says this will be the second visit of the Chinese premier to Pakistan. He earlier visited Pakistan in 1981. Mr Zhao will also pay visits to Poland, the German Democratic Republic, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, and Bulgaria.

Benazir Bhutto Warns Against AWACS Acquisition

BK191505 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 8 May 87 pp 1, 8

[From Abbas Rashid]

[Text] Lahore, May 7 — "All the regime can think of is to get Awacs which are huge, clumsy, costly aircraft and can be more easily shot down than F-16s."

This was stated here today by Ms Benazir Bhutto as she read from a prepared statement at her press conference.

Focussing on the aircraft itself she dismissed its surveillance fire control and electronic countermeasures (ECM) capability in absolute terms. She described as "dangerous" reports to the effect that non-Pakistani pilots may be flying the aircraft.

As the same time, however, there was no reference in her statement to Afghanistan i.e. the context in which AWACS have become an issue.

She warned that the move to acquire AWACS could affect Pakistan's independent status and could push the country into an "inextricable vortex of superpower conflict" but was not otherwise critical of the regime's Afghan policy.

When asked if this silence on the subject of Afghanistan was to be construed as agreement with government policy, she said that the government, in fact, had no policy on Afghanistan. The government, she said, was given to "blowing hot and cold" whereas the Pakistan People's Party [PPP] had been consistent in its approach reiterated most recently in its resolution on this issue in Peshawar. The party, she said, believed that the agreement package must incorporate a clear-cut arrangement for the return of the Afghan refugees to their own country as they had, by now, become a source of considerable strain on the local population from Peshawar to Karachi. By itself, therefore, the withdrawal of Soviet forces was not enough and an agreement which only guaranteed this was not acceptable.

It was put to her that the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan must, of necessity, be seen as the beginning of any such process that would culminate in the Afghan refugees returning to Afghanistan and to that extent a Soviet troop withdrawal constituted a necessary if not a sufficient condition for the refugee's return. In response, she said that she was willing to concede the validity of such a view but that another approach to the issue was equally valid. The withdrawal of Soviet troops, she said, could leave chaos in its wake and the result could be more Afghan refugees streaming into Pakistan as opposed to significant numbers going the other day.

She did not, however, go into details as to how it was possible even with the most finely calibrated agreements, to absolutely guarantee that the refugees would return or how the situation could be kept under control indefinitely while waiting for the "perfect" agreement.

BADRUL ISLAM adds: Miss Benazir Bhutto, co-Chairperson of the Pakistan Peoples Party, said today that being cognisant of the current crisis Pakistan was faced with there was a need for the immediate release of all political prisoners, return of all exiles, disbandment of special tribunals, restoration of 'Musawaat,' 'Hilal-e-Pakistan' and other closed papers, and for giving internal stability to the country through the formula that had been framed and presented by the MRD.

Miss Benazir Bhutto who arrived in Lahore last night for a 2-week stay, spelt out the said demands at a Press conference on Thursday evening. In reply to various questions from the newsmen she explained her party's stand on the Afghan issue, including the procurement of the much discussed AWACS, the Assemblies within the current political set up and her party's socialist democratic character. She, however, dispelled speculation about her party going in for an alliance with the Jamaat-e-Islami by saying that it was for the MRD to decide if the Jamaat ever chooses to join the democratic struggle.

In her written statement Miss Benazir discussed the situation prevailing in the country by criticising the past regime of Martial Law. She said, "Gen Zia's illegal, unrepresentative and unpopular rule has led to the political destabilisation of Pakistan, the economic deprivation of its people, and discrimination of its communities". His dictatorship through Martial Law and his civilian "puppets" she alleged, had created ill-will, malice and distrust among the people of Pakistan. "National identity and integration on the basis of equity and justice has been sacrificed at the altar of his personal greed and aggrandisement of power", she charged.

The total ineffectiveness of the regime, she said, is evident from the widespread smuggling of narcotics, unabashed gun-running and daylight robberies. Political instability has created adverse conditions precluding economic investment. The regime, she claimed, has survived on the spin-off of the PPP's economic policies and infrastructure. The country is kept afloat by the remittances of emigrants who were encouraged during the PPP years to go to the oil producing countries. Human life, which is the most sacred trust of Allah, has been considered cheap by those, who overthrew the legal Constitution and sent the elected Prime Minister to the gallows.

The irony of the situation, as Benazir viewed, is compounded by the killings of innocent women and children through bomb blasts, ethnic strife, and law and order operations. Such motions are overruled in the so-called National Assembly, on the pretext that there are more pressing matters pending. What can be more brutal than the toll of human blood? What can be more brutal

than brother devouring brother? The regime makes much of its affiliations with the clergy. Yet they have failed to apprehened the killers of Allama Ehsan Elahi Zaheer.

Criticising the decision to raise the age-limit of voters from 18 to 21 years, Miss Benazir said that it clearly violated the Constitution of 1973. According to her the "disenfranchisement" of the youth is a part of the chain of events to disenfranchise the PPP voter. Similarly, the tribal vote has been disenfranchised. The minorities have been cut off the main electoral roll into separate electorates and now the youth are being targeted.

Again criticising Gen Ziaul Haq she alleged that he was clinging to the office of Chief of Army Staff as though there is no other man in the entire army fit for the job. His relative she charged, is given doubled promotion to a prestigious job when his retirement is long overdue. The Army, she said, is being treated as a private "lashkar". The Prime Minister, she alleged, has failed to take the necessary steps to put an end to Zia's tenure as Chief of Staff. We have lost Siachin Glacier, our trawlers are being seized, our Air Force plane has been shot down in our territory and all we can think of is going to watch cricket matches.

She also criticised the ongoing AWACS deal saying that Pakistan's security can be best safeguarded by strengthening the country internally, through genuine political redress.

National security depends on the well being of a people, upon the mobilisation of a people, upon a leadership which is prepared to sacrifice itself for the people, she said.

While replying to a question about PPP's approach towards the present assemblies, Miss Benazir said that the existing system of government came into being through non-party elections held under martial law and under heavy restrictions, including detention of political opponents in jails. The PPP, she explained, considered this system as defective but had been, however, of the view that it had the potential, if it seized the opportunity, to play the role of a 'stepping stone".

Regarding speculations of a rapprochement between her party and the Jamaat she said that there was no such proposal from either of the parties for the present moment. Things, she said, should have become clear to everyone after the statement of Main Tufail Mohammad on this account.

On a question about the character of the PPP, Miss Benazir once again explained that the Pakistan People's Party was a multi-class socialist democratic party wedded to its four basic principles and rooted in the traditions of the society in Pakistan, the PPP, she said, was not and could not be considered to be a Marxist or a Communist party. It had been under attack both from the left and right. Leftists, she pointed out, were not prepared to recognise the PPP as a socialist party while the right on the other hand had been branding the PP as Communist and for that matter "ladeen" [faithless].

Asghar Khan Criticizes Defense, Foreign Policies

BK191253 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 10 May 87 p 6

[Text] Abottabad — May 9 — Air Marshal (Retd) Asghar Khan, Chief of Tehrik-e-Istiqlal, has, in a Press statement, bitterly criticised Pakistan's foreign and defence policies. He has said that purchase of three Frigates at tremendous cost and the acquisition of AWACs may give the rulers of Pakistan a false sense of security but will not not materially alter the fragile basis on which our defence is based. He says that the almost daily bombing of Pakistan territory, frequent violations of its air space and an increase in explosions and blasts is the natural consequence of a steady drift in our foreign policy over the last eight years.

Asghar Khan said that the purchase of three Frigates at tremendous cost and the acquisition of AWACS may give the rulers of Pakistan a false sense of security but will not materially alter the fragile basis on which our defence is based. If seen in the narrow military sense, divorced from any political implications, it could be argued that the acquisition of Frigates, F-16 and AWACS aircraft strengthen our defence capability. Since defence services are an instrument of policy they should be equipped and maintained to further a political objective. The usefulness of any military equipment must, therefore, be seen in a wider context along with its political implications. Weapons of defence are required to meet a specific military threat and if such policies are pursued that cause the threat to grow, the need for more and more equipment to meet the increased threat will be felt. When this process is allowed to escalate as has been done in Pakistan, no country can provide adequate security for itself.

The AWACS will, he said, do more to push Pakistan into the super power arena of conflict than to safeguard Pakistan's security. He said that the country interests require that our foreign relations should be so managed that the threats which endanger our security should be removed without recourse to military confrontation. At the rate we are moving into the super power tussle he said, it is only a matter of time before Pakistan becomes an area of potential nuclear conflict.

He said that never in the 40 years history of the country had Pakistan government shown such bankruptcy of statesmanship in the field of foreign relations as the Martial Law government of General Ziaul Haq and later its civilian successor has shown in the last couple of years. Asghar Khan called upon the people to realise the gravity of the situation and the dangers in continuing to allow the present regime to push Pakistan towards greater insecurity and increased dangers.

SRI LANKA

Further Reports on Government Clashes With Tamils

Fighting Near Elephant Pass

BK201619 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 20 May 87

[Text] In Sri Lanka, fighting between the security forces and Tamil militants continued near Elephant Pass for the 5th day today. Civilian traffic to and from the Jaffna peninsula has come to a standstill, cutting the area off completely from the rest of the island. Sources in the northern province say that air force bombers pounded (Yagachchi) near Elephant Pass. Twelve civilians are feared killed and 45 houses destroyed. Unconfirmed reports, however, put the death toll at 30. An official spokesman in Colombo denied the bombing and claimed that security forces camped at Elephant Pass hae come under mortar attack. Our Colombo correspondent, Plabon Majumder, reports that food shortage has hit the peninsula.

Armed Forces Control Pass Area

BK210318 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 21 May 87

[Text] In Sri Lanka, reports reaching Colombo from the northern province say that security forces have taken effective control of (Yagachchi) in Jaffna Peninsula near Elephant Pass. The area is of substantial strategic importance in the battle for the peninsula between security forces and militants. Our Colombo correspondent says that although there is no official confirmation available of the advance, security forces and heavily-armed convoys moved northward out of the Elephant Pass camp yesterday and engaged the militants in a stiff battle. (Yagachchi) was bombed and strafed by Air Force planes and helicopters for the 2d consecutive day yesterday resulting in at least 30 civilian deaths and damage to property. The place has now been evacuated completely by civilians. A government communique said 10 militants were killed at Palali while reports from Jaffna said at least 6 soldiers were killed and several injured in the battle. Security forces have advised travelers of the Elephant Pass not to undertake any journey from the peninsula till Saturday. The Jaffna public library building and an open-air theater were burned down by the militants.

LTTE Leader's Close Aide Killed

BK210439 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0426 GMT 21 May 87

[Text] Colombo, May 21 (LANKA PUWATH) — Radha [first name indistinct], a close asociate of LTTE Leader Velupillai Prabhakaran was killed by government forces yesterday during a security operation carried out in Palali, the Media Centre in Colombo said.

The dead terrorist took over from Kittu in Jaffna after the latter lost a leg in a grenade attack.

Earlier, Radha was named LTTE leader for Mannar after Victor Ivan Fusilles, who led the Anuradhapura massacre, was killed.

KEYHAN: U.S. Financial Questions Remain

PM201335 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 14 May 87 p 2

[Text] The United States has finally given in to a ruling issued by the Hague Tribunal in Iran's favor and has handed over some of Iran's money.

An informed source at the International Legal Services office told IRNA that last night the United States handed over $451 million of Iran's wealth which had remained in that country. The money was deposited through the Bank of England's branch in New York to the account held by the Central Bank of the Islamic Republic of Iran at the Bank of English in London.

The official added that the tribunal's ruling is the result of a legal suit brought against the United States by Iran after much effort and hard work. He added: The United States continuously sought excuses during the tribunal's sessions and even afterward, during the negotiations held by bank officials from the two countries. These negotiations were ordered by the tribunal, and throughout the talks the United States tried to give the issue a political slant and to make excuses. But with the awareness of officials and lawyers of the Islamic Republic all their tricks and plots were foiled.

The source said: Finally, the tribunal accepted a major portion of Iran's positions and views. It condemned the United States and asked it to pay sums to Iran that had for the past 5 years been held by the U.S. Federal Reserve.

According to this source the U.S. representative at the Hague Tribunal said yesterday that the United States will carry out the tribunal's directive as soon as possible and stressed that the transfer of the funds had nothing to do with the issue of the hostages in Lebanon or any other political issue. This comes at a time when the United States had tried to push Iran into making this a political issue, up until the time of the tribunal's ruling, in order to confuse the issues.

We remind you that this is not the only wrongdoing that the United States has committed with regard to financial issues with Iran. For example, there is some government property which they have not handed over despite the fact that both the cost of merchandise and the shipping fees have been paid. This is still in the United States and its delivery is being prevented.

Another example is that there were some legal suits, which are still continuing, brought against Iran in U.S. courts before the Algiers accord. This is despite the fact that the United States had promised to end all these suits in that country.

SAIRI Chairman Comments on Attack on U.S. Ship

LD210058 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 20 May 87

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed Mohammad Baqer Hakim, head of the Supreme Assembly of Islamic Revolution of Iraq (SAIRI), during an exclusive interview granted to the Central News Unit, referred to the attack by the Iraqi regime on a U.S. warship in the Persian Gulf and stressed: This incident demonstrates that the U.S. and the Soviet presence in the Persian Gulf creates tension in the region, and their more extensive presence can detonate the situation in region.

About the consequences of this incident, the SAIRI head said: This action shows that the Saddamist regime does not deserve weapons and is incapable of using the sophisticated and modern weapons it receives from the major powers. This problem can have dire consequences for the United States and the USSR.

Referring to the point that the recent action by the Iraqi regime is indicative of the fact that the Saddam regime is unconditionally affiliated with global imperialism and is a hireling, Hakim said: The recent action by the Iraqi regime — its attack on a U.S. warship in the Persian Gulf with a French Exocet missile, the Iraqi apology to the United States, and the United States' acceptance of this apology, should make them think.

In conclusion, he said: Another reason behind the Iraqi regime's attack on the U.S. warship, is to overshadow International Jerusalem Day: Over the past few years we have witnessed that every year, global arrogance — with the help of imperialist media — tries to overshadow International Jerusalem Day with other news by creating an incident. This year, they hastily performed this task with the cooperation of Iraq. Their weakness and haste in the conspiracy against the Islamic revolution is indicative of the fact that the United States and the USSR do not have the strength to stand against the faith and steadfastness of the Muslims. The final victory will be that of Islam.

Tehran Reports Further on Iraqi-Kurdish Clashes

Peshmergas Attack Bases

LD192138 Tehran IRNA in English 1845 GMT 19 May 87

[Text] Urumiyeh, West Azarbayjan Prov., May 19, IRNA — Three bases of Iraqi Ba'thist Forces around the northeastern Iraqi town of Batufeh [name as received] were seized by Peshmergas of Iraq's Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) Monday.

The KDP Peshmergas also took the control of the Batufeh-Bigufa [name as received] road in separate operations.

In another development, the Peshmergas seized the control of Zawiteh [name as received]-Dahuk and Dahuk-Mangish [name as received] roads in Dahuk Province, twice over the past two days.

The Peshmergas also attacked three bases of Iraqi state troops near Zawiteh town, inflicting heavy losses in men and equipment on Ba'thist forces.

Meanwhile, the Iraqi regime alarmed at the mass insurrection of Kurdish people and opposition groups in northern Iraq is attacking defenceless villagers.

Over the past three days, Ba'thist agents forced residents of seven Kurdish-populated villages in northern Iraq to immigrate to other parts of the country.

Iraqi military commanders and officials of the Ba'th party and security organization in a secret session recently held in Dahuk have reportedly reviewed the ways to execute Saddam Husayn's instructions for forcefully transfering residents of Dahuk and Mawsil villages from their hometowns to other parts of the country.

KDP released a statement Monday, calling on revolting Kurdish people in northern Iraq to continue their heroic battles with the criminal regime of Iraq.

Montashemi Discusses Refugees

LD192240 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 19 May 87

[Report on 19 May press conference by Iranian Interior Minister Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akhbar Mohtashemi; place not given — announcer-read]

[Text] In a press conference today which was broadcast on both radio and television, Interior Minister Mohtashemi outlined the outcome of today's session of the country's Security Council in connection with the status of Iraqi refugees who sought asylum in Iran recently.

The interior minister said: After the victory of the Karbala-10 operations and the victories achieved by Islamic combatants in the western sector of the country, the Iraqi regime exerted considerable pressures on the Iraqi Kurdish population, ordering the evacuation of towns and villages up to three kilometers inside Iraq.

He added: In the areas that have come under Iraqi raids, there lived families of Iraq's people's army who, following the diabolical atacks by the Iraqi rulers, immediately were evacuated from 180 towns and villages and returned to several towns in Iraqi Kurdistan from Sayyid Sadiq, Shaneh Dari, and Halabjah.

Mohtashemi then continued: Having noticed the condition of their families as such, the Iraqi people's army staged a series of demonstrations against the Iraqi regime under the leadership of the region's clergy and ulema, and displayed their rebellion through their slogans. Stating that so far several Iraqi towns already have fallen and that more than 4,000 Iraqi Kurds have arrived in Iran, Mohateshemi said: currently they are accommodated with open arms in Kordestan and Bakhtaran Provinces. He then said: The Iraqis who have arrived in Iran state that on their way to Iran they were subjected to five Iraqi air raids. This shows the gravity of the tragedy and the inhuman nature of Saddam's regime.

Mohtashemi then said that the refugees have been accommodated by the Commerce Ministry, the Red Crescent, and the offices of the governors-general.

He then alluded to recent economic moves in the country, saying: A recent move was a politico-economic war launched against the Islamic Republic of Iran. It was conducted by the Zionists. In this connection, a considerable sum of foreign currency was transferred to Iran by several states in the southern part of the Persian Gulf. This was aimed at purchasing of coins and gold. However, through their alertness, Iranian security forces coped with the situation and, with the help of the Supreme Judicial Council, they arrested a number of mercenaries involved in the act.

He added: Available information shows that this recent measure has not been confined to Iran alone. Rather, they have resorted to the same measures in the case of several other countries, including Syria and Lebanon.

More Kurds Seeking 'Refuge'

NC190957 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0330 GMT 19 May 87

[Report by Central News Unit correspondent — recorded]

[Text] Amid the recent crimes perpetrated by Saddam's regime against the Muslim and combatant Kurdish nation, hundreds more of the oppressed people whose homes were destroyed by the Baghdad rulers sought refuge in the Islamic Republic of Iran over the last 24 hours, after having to pass through the difficult mountainous terrain in the west of the country. Among the many people who have sought refuge are Sayyid Sadiq Husayni, the congregational imam of the 'Ali ibn Talib A.S. Mosque in Halabjah, and Sayyid Nur al-Din Husayni, the Friday imam of Khurmal, who crossed the borders with his family and was welcomed by the combatant brothers.

This comes at a time when the Islamic movement of the Kurdish people against the fascist Ba'thist regime of Iraq, which started last week in the Kurdish-inhabited areas, is still continuing strongly. According to reports from the Ramadan headquarters, the irregular operations center for the Islamic Republic Guards' Corps ground forces, heavy smoke continues to rise in northern Iraq following the Ba'thist enemy's beastly and extensive bombing, artillery shelling, and setting fire to the areas's residential areas and fields.

Meanwhile, on 13 May, on orders from Saddam's representative 'Ali Hasan Majid, six drivers and two shopkeepers who circulated in the liberated areas were executed without reason. Their names are as follows: Jamal Mustafa from Sargalu, Jamal Muhammad Nasir from (Mamuleh), Salih 'Abdallah from (Fumarhum), Sattar Muhammad Amir from Timar, Rashid Muhammad from (?Ghuziljah), (Hushyar 'Abd al-Majid) from (Halzun), Haji Rasul from Sargalu, and Sharif Hasan from (Muran).

The same report states that, in response to the crimes by the Aflaqite regime and the Saddamist forces, two vehicles, which were returning from destroying villages and massacring their inhabitants, were ambushed by forces of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan. Twenty-five Ba'thist mercenaries were killed and wounded; among those killed was a colonel.

The residents of Iraq's Kurdish-inhabited areas appeal to the world's organizations and to the International Red Cross to inspect this area and to rush to the aid of the wounded.

Rawanduz Joins 'Uprising'

LD201109 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 20 May 87

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, as part of the uprising of the Muslim people of Iraq against the Zionist regime ruling in Baghdad, which has led to heavy clashes in several cities, the Iraqi city of Rawanduz has also joined the popular movement of the Muslims in Iraqi Kurdistan.

The general staff of the three forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps has issued a communique, which says: In the course of this popular movement, the people and combative forces of Iraq have taken control of all the administrative offices and state departments. Right now, the people have taken positions in sensitive areas of the city. The popular forces also took full control of a garrison near Rawanduz, named (Stincheh) garrison, and all the forces stationed in this garrison joined the ranks of the people, and all its weapons and ammunition were captured by the people. During these operations, a number of the Iraqi regime's hirelings, including a main agent of the regime in the region, named Major (Karkal), were killed.

It should be explained that the Iraqi city of Rawanduz is an important city in the Irbil Province, 100 km northeast of the city of the city of Irbil. The same report also indicates that the people of the Iraqi town of Chamchamal, 40 km from the city if Irbil, are on strike and a group of former agents of the Iraqi regime have joined the people.

Crisis Enters 'New Phase'

LD201357 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 20 May 87

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, a spokesman for the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, giving details of the uprising of the Iraqi Muslim People, said: During recent months, following the great victories of the corps of Islam and the increasing weakness and feebleness of the Iraqi regime, the popular uprisings of Iraq have intensified in an unprecedented manner. This is particularly so in the Kurdish regions of northern Iraq, where the crisis has entered a new phase. In order to crush the uprising, so far the Iraqi regime has razed to the ground 15,000-16,000 villages in the provinces of Sulaymaniyah, Kirkuk, Mawsil, Irbil and Dahuk.

Referring to the steadfastness of the people in the northern regions of Iraq, the spokesman said: When the Saddam regime demolished 49 villages near the town of (Zur), in Sulaymaniyah Province, the people of these villages and the town of Sayyid Sadiq, during an armed demonstration, clashed with the forces of the Iraqi regime and liberated the towns of Sayyid Sadiq and Halabjah and the township of Sirwan and their linking roads. As a result, the clashes spread to the cities of Arbat, (Chuarta), (Shnowdari), and Sangasar in the Sulaymaniyah Province, Qalat Dizah and Chaqlawah in Irbil Province; more than 1,000 military and security troops and a number of groups armed by the Iraqi regime joined the people with their weapons. On the Sayyid Sadiq Halabjah road, 70 military personnel and 60 commandos, including several officers, were taken prisoner near the Khurmal-Sayyid Sadiq-Sirwan junction.

Analyzing the fear that this uprising has brought to the Iraqi regime, and this regime's hostility against Islam and the Islamic movement of the Iraqi regime, the Guards Corps spokesman referred to the inhumane acts of Saddam's mercenaries and said: In order to put psychological pressure to bear on the people, the Iraqi regime has issued a circular to hospitals ordering them not to treat the victims of the Iraqi chemical bombings, who were wounded in the villages bombed by chemical weapons of that regime. A considerable number of such victims are, therefore, suffering terribly in the northern cities of Iraq.

He added: To combat manpower shortage among the military forces and in order to crush the popular uprising of the northern provinces, the Zionist enemy has dispatched 10 percent of the security forces from various Iraqi cities to join the military units stationed in the northern provinces.

He further emphasized: All these measures show the importance of the uprising of the people in Iraqi Kurdistan.

The Guards Corps spokesman, addressing the International Red Cross and other international forums, who have remained silent in the face of these oppressive measures, called upon them to visit the northern regions of Iraq and the camps of the Iraqi refugees in Iran in order to observe the facts at close quarters and to prevent the continuation of these crimes.

In conclusion, referring to the fact that about 4,000 homeless people of these regions hve sought asylum in the Islamic Republic of Iran, he asked the people of our country to send their donations to the Islamic Revolution guards Corps center in Bakhtaran, through Guards Corps bases in every town and city.

Kurds Protest Razing of Villages

LD201745 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 20 May 87

[Text] Quoting the High Command of the three forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, the Central News Unit reports: the people of (Rangeh), Chuwartah, Sangasar, (?Qal'at Dizah) and (Shablabeh), in support of the people of Halabjah, Sayyid Sadiq, (Khormal), (Arbas) and Rawanduz, went on strike in protest against the destruction of villages in northern Iraq. They closed down shops, did not go to work and clashed with the forces of the Iraqi regime. The report adds: Following the strike, the Zionist regime of Iraq asked the governorates of these towns to force the people to go back to work. But, thanks to the all-round resistance of the people, the enemy's position has become exceedingly hopeless.

Quoting Ramadan Headquarters the report adds: The 65th and 103d battalions of the Iraqi Armed Forces, supported by units of the Popular Forces, staged an extensive offensive to destroy and evacuate villages in the (Dawudeh) region in Kirkuk Province. they were resisted by the people and peshmergas of the Patriotic Union of Iraqi Kurdistan [PUK] and were disgraced and forced to flee the area.

During the operation a bulldozer was destroyed and some equipment was captured. Also, 20 troops of the Iraqi regime were captured by the Muslim Kurdish Peshmergas, including a colonel and a battalion adviser.

According to this report, a commander of a battalion of the Popular Forces, by the name of (Hamur Yasi), and the forces under his command surrendered to the Peshmergas, together with more than 1,500 weapons.

Villages Bombed 'Over 35 Times'

LD201944 Tehran IRNA in English 1850 GMT 20 May 87

[Text] Bakhtaran, May 20, IRNA — Iraqi planes and helicopter gunships have bombed that country's Kurdistan, mostly the towns of Halabjah and Zour [placename as received] over 35 times since late last week, said representative of secretary-general of Iraq's Patriotic Union of Kurdestan (PUK) Rafat Mohammad 'Ali, Wednesday.

The PUK representative who visited Shaykhan region to study Iraqi Kurdish refugee' situation told IRNA that many Iraqi Kurdish people have sought asylum in the Islamic Republic of Iran. He added that four camps in Iran have been set up to lodge the refugees in various regions.

He thanked the Islamic Republic Government for forming relief headquarters for the refugees and said that foodstuff, housing, physicians and medicine have been provided for the refugees in the said camps.

Muhammad 'Ali, on behalf of Iraqi Muslim people and especially Kurds, urged world organizations, including the United Nations and International Committee of Red Cross to send delegations to the camps in order to study the conditions of the refugees and also to get acquainted with the depth of crimes committed by the Baghdad Government.

Mentioning that some 2,000 local state forces have so far joined the Iraqi insurrectionists and the peshmergas, Muhammad 'Ali said that people of Shaqlawah and Irbil have also joined the insurrectionists. A wave of strikes has gripped the Province of Irbil, he added.

The number of Iraqi soldiers killed during the insurrection in Halabjah and Zour towns exceeded 300, Muhammad 'Ali noted, saying some seven personnel carriers, 13 military trucks as well as a considerable amount of weapons have been seized by the peshmergas.

The only way the four and a half million population of Iraqi Kurdistan can be free of the Baghdad government's crimes is to join the popular movement, he said.

Meanwhile, five Iraqi prayers leaders of Halabjah who had sought refuge in Iran arrived in Sanandaj, Kurdistan Province, on Tuesday. The refugees were warmly welcomed by a group of officials in the province.

The refugees later held talks with Imam Khomeyni's representative in Kurdistan Province, Hojjat ol-Eslam Musavi, after their arrival.

Reports, Communique Detail Recent Battles

Iraqi Rocket Hits Near Ahvaz

LD201544 Tehran IRNA in English 1525 GMT 20 May 87

[Text] Tehran, May 20, IRNA — An industrial unit on outskirts of Ahvaz, capital of Khuzestan Province, was hit by an Iraqi rocket Wednesday morning. The Iraqi planes fired the rocket at the center causing damage. No casualty has been reported.

Spokesman Denies Plane Downed

LD201550 Tehran IRNA in English 1520 GMT 20 May 87

[Text] Tehran, May 20, IRNA — The War Information Headquarters spokesman (WIH) here Wednesday categorically denied a report by the Iraqi regime claiming that it had downed an Iranian F-4 jet fighter Wednesday morning.

The WIH spokesman contacted by IRNA described the Iraqi report as "total fabrication."

The spokesman added in the past 24 hours Iranian planes successfully carried out their missions and all returned safely to bases after each sortie.

Communique No 2842

LD201626 Tehran IRNA in English 1610 GMT 20 May 87

[Text] Tehran, May 20, IRNA — Twenty-three foreign cargo ships, tankers and warships were intercepted and searched by Iran's Navy in the Strait of Hormuz Tuesday but were allowed to continue voyage when no Iraq-bound cargo was found on board, according to the Joint Staff Communique No. 2842 released here today.

The communique said that Iranian Muslim combatants trapped an Iraqi patrol unit in the northwestern fronts, and inflicted casualties and losses on it, capturing wounded Iraqi soldiers.

During the exchange of artillery fire throughout the fronts, Iranian combatants destroyed several gun emplacements, five watch posts, four munitions dumps, killing or wounding a group of enemy troops.

Two Iraqi patrol units attempted to infiltrate Iranian positions in Kharratha and Nahr-e Anbar regions of southern fronts, but were forced to retreat by Muslim forces.

Relocation activities of Iraqi motorised columns were checked in supply axes overlooking Mehran and Hoseyniyeh operational theaters by Iranian combatants who also disrupted enemy engineering activities in Helaleh.

Exchange of artillery fire which was more intense in Zeyd and Kushk operational regions also silenced Iraqi tank fire in 'Eyn-

Khvosh with the enemy suffering some casualties and losses.

Anti-aircraft fire of the Muslim forces, the communique said, prevented Iraqi helicopters as well as an enemy warplane from violating air space of Pich-Angizeh, Bajliyeh, Bubiyan and Zobeydeh operational theaters.

Iranian gendarmerie forces responded to Iraqi artillery fire Tuesday setting afire an Iraqi vehicle and two gun emplacements and killing or wounding a number of enemy soldiers.

Commentary Says 'No Compromise' on Jerusalem

NC191415 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 19 May 87

[Central News Unit Research Group commentary: "Jerusalem Day and the Liberation of Palestine"]

[Excerpts] Many Muslims throughout the world will express their views regarding a true solution to the Palestinian issue this Friday [22 May], when Jerusalem Day will be observed.

Following the victory of the Islamic revolution in Iran and the global awakening of Islam, two general views now prevail on how best to resolve the Palestinian crisis. The first is the perspective of the leaders and politicians in most Arab and Islamic countries, and the second represents the outlook of the Muslim people in these countries.

On the official and political levels, the solution is seen in convening an international peace conference on the Middle East in which, in addition to the concerned governments, the five permanent UN Security Council members also will participate to grant the conference an international guarantee. Naturally the PLO also will attend as the Palestinian side. This plan is supported by Arab political leaders.

Meanwhile, the Zionists believe such a conference will only internationalize the crisis and that they will forfeit the concessions made to them. Therefore, they insist that only direct and joint negotiations can achieve a lasting peace — a similar situation that arose between Israel and Egypt and led to the Camp David agreement. [passage omitted]

The second general view which most Muslims, and not governments, in the world believe in, is that Palestine's liberation is not only a political issue in which a people's right has been deprived and should be regained; rather, it is more than this because Jerusalem is a religious issue and a religious ideal on which no compromise is possible. The liberation of the Holy Land of the prophets and of the holy shrine is a religious duty. The Jews, with one of the holy books like the Christians, can live in Palestine, but they cannot rule or dominate over the Al-Aqsa Mosque.

Therefore, there is no place for negotiations or for compromise from this religious and political view, and Palestine should be wholly and not partially liberated.

Clearly, the only way to achieve this objective is through the general mobilization of the world's Muslims and through an armed and devoted struggle. This holy objective will be achieved. The vanguards of the sacrosanct are currently involved in destroying one of the obstacles on this path — the Ba'thist regime of Iraq. Meanwhile, the struggles by the Muslim Lebanese revolutionaries in south Lebanon also show that flimsy tales can be destroyed.

Now Muslims are preparing for Jerusalem Day, and the people of Palestine have more hopes for their and their homeland's liberation. These people are fed up with all politicking, conferences, and political maneuvering, and want to interpret the Koranic verse of Bani Esra'il and the liberation of Al-Qasa Mosque in the victory of the Islamic revoltuion.

Deputy Foreign Minister Makes Visit to Japan

For reportage on a visit to Japan by Deputy Foreign Minister Hoseyn Sheykh-ol-Elsam, see the Japan section of the 21 May Asia & Pacific *Daily Report* and subsequent issues.

Deputy Prime Minister Visits Argentina

For reportage on a visit to Argentina by 'Ali Reza Moayyeri, deputy prime minister for political affairs, including his meeting with President Alfonsin, see the Argentina section of the 19 May Latin America *Daily Report* and subsequent issues.

Correction to Hashemi-Rafsanjani Majlis Address

The following correction pertains to the item subheaded "Hashemi-Rafsanjani Addresses Majlis," published in the 20 May South Asia *Daily Report*, page I 1:

left column, paragraph one, line four:

...waters and said: [Begin recording] In the name...(supplying editorial notation to reflect the fact that Hashemi-Rafsanjani, and not the announcer, was making the remarks)

left column, paragraph five, last line:

...they are trying to cover it up. [End recording] (supplying editorial notation)

VII.	WESTERN EUROPE DAILY REPORT	Contents unchanged
VIII.	SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA DAILY REPORT	Renamed; formerly SOUTH ASIA DAILY REPORT; contents include: International Affairs Inter-African Affairs Central Africa Burundi Cameroon Central African Republic Congo Equatorial Guinea Gabon Rwanda Sao Tome & Principe Zaire East Africa Djibouti Ethiopia Kenya Somalia Tanzania Uganda Indian Ocean Comoros Madagascar Mauritius Seychelles Southern Africa Angola Botswana Lesotho Malawi Mozambique Namibia Republic of South Africa Reunion Swaziland Zambia Zimbabwe Western Africa Benin Burkina Faso Cape Verde Islands The Gambia Ghana Guinea Guinea-Bissau Ivory Coast Liberia Mali Niger Nigeria Senegal Sierra Leone Togo

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